

 21. The system of claim 19, wherein the database requests to check out the database item such that the first program checks out the database item.

22. The system of claim 19, wherein the first program provides the database a choice of one or more different versions of the database item at the source code control (SCC) system.

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 were rejected. Claims 19-22 were added. Claims 1-22 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,145,119 to House et al. ("House") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,558,413 to Schmidt et al. ("Schmidt"). According to the Office Action, House allegedly discloses a first program that manipulates an item (column 2, lines 4-8) and a database that has the item (column 3, lines 44-50). Also, the Office Action alleges that Schmidt discloses a source code control system to store versions of the item (column 3, lines 56-60), and a second program to check in and check out the item, such that modification of the item is restricted when the item is checked out (column 4, lines 3-22 and column 8, lines 45-50). Applicants respectfully disagree with the allegations made in the Office Action.

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Colbert for allowing a telephonic interview with applicants' attorney on August 19, 2002.

The present invention is directed to the versioning of *database items*, such as text-stream stored procedures and binary streams within the database itself. Schmidt, on the other hand, is